Dear Parents and Community Members,

Welcome back to Term 4! As our sign says, it is an exciting time. The students are well rested and enthusiastic as are the teachers and teacher aides. It is a short term and we have a lot happening.

I would firstly like to begin this newsletter by thanking the P&C for their extraordinary effort during school camp. Unfortunately, the week did not go as planned due to the weather, but the food during the camp was fantastic. Thanks also to them for inviting the community to dinner on the Thursday night. I know that everyone enjoyed it!

School and Community Musical

Most exciting is that preparations are underway for our musical. Your children will probably be singing around the house this term as they practise their songs! Students of the community and school will be performing the musical extravaganza, Seussical KIDS under the expert direction of Deslie Collins. The process of learning the songs has commenced and each Tuesday and Thursday in the afternoon session, Deslie will be teaching the students the songs. The response has been fantastic and the students have already learned part of one song. Costumes have been bought and the stage props will be created this term as a part of the Digital Technology and Art/Drama/Music curriculum.

As a part of our musical preparations, from Friday of Week 3 (14th October), there will be rehearsals from 5:30 – 7:00pm (the venue is yet to be confirmed). For a small charge of around $3.00, students will be given dinner and then rehearse until 7:00pm. A permission form will be handed out next week.

Responsible Behaviour Plan

Last term, work began on our new Responsible Behaviour Plan. The school’s four values of Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Be a Learner have been conveyed to students and they have also had input into the rewards and consequences in their own classroom. These are visibly displayed so that students are constantly reminded to do the right thing such as putting hands up to speak, wearing the correct school uniform and not running on concrete. All of the rules fall into the categories of our four values. Our focus this week has been to put hands up to speak and not to speak over anyone else. We value what everyone has to say.

Two other areas which we are focussing on are the wearing of the uniform and attendance. The students looked splendid in their uniforms this week – everyone had full school uniform on! I would encourage all students to keep this up over the term!

Last term, a table illustrating the impact attendance has on learning and indeed, the future of our students was in the newsletter. This term, the goal is to get 95% attendance! It is a short term and with so much happening, it is vital that students attend each day. Every day counts!

Professional Development

Teachers and teacher aides will also be undergoing some professional development this term. We are very fortunate to have such a committed group of educators here at Thargomindah. Last term, the Speech Sound Pics (SSP) program was implemented to boost literacy levels. Outstanding results have already been witnessed and we want the improvement to continue. A group of teachers and teacher aides will be travelling to Bundaberg, leaving on the afternoon of the 13th of October and returning on the 17th to complete professional development in SSP. In Week 4, there is a cluster meeting in Eulo where all small schools in the area will be meeting, among other things, to look at priorities for 2017. Also in this week, the Small Schools are Great Schools initiative will see teachers from the small schools coming to Thargomindah to take part in additional professional development. In Week 6, Miss Smith will be heading to Benowa to observe the best practice in a Prep/1 classroom and then to Ipswich to undertake further professional development in Literacy and Numeracy.

I wish everyone a happy and productive term!

Anja

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**Students of the Week**

**7TH OCTOBER 2016**

**CALEB LITTLE** — CONGRATULATIONS ON A GREAT START TO THE TERM. YOU ARE FOCUSED AND READY TO LEARN, KEEP IT UP!

**7TH OCTOBER 2016**

**JAMES PIKE** — FOR DOING ABOVE & BEYOND WHAT IS EXPECTED OF YOU IN CLASS! WONDERFUL TO SEE JAMES, KEEP IT UP!
3-6 CLASSROOM NEWS

Welcome to the last term for the year! This term is going to be super busy! We have reporting this term, so students need to keep putting in 110% percent to receive the marks they want/deserve. We have our swimming carnival, the Year 6 graduation and Christmas Tree (which I am really excited about!).

This term, both classes have joined together to have the same behaviour system. Our dojos are NINJAS! When students receive a certain amount of points, they can move up ninja belts! Each belt has a reward/prize (ones which the students have decided as a group). The students seem to love the idea and are working really hard to earn Dojo points.

This term, I am not setting specific tasks each week. Instead, I will make a homework grid with literacy and numeracy tasks to do, as well as some household chores students can help with. Also, if students have not finished a task during class, that will also be sent home for homework.

Students loved the idea and there were massive improvements with the amount of work done this week.

That’s all from me this week

Amy.
DATE CLAIMERS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8th Oct</td>
<td>N秋冬 Campdraft, Rodeo &amp; Gymkhana</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>15th Oct</td>
<td>Country Challenge Two Hand</td>
<td>Cutting, Rodeo &amp; Home Gymkhana</td>
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<tr>
<td>30th Oct</td>
<td>Toompine Hotel</td>
<td>Camp Oven Dinner</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Nov</td>
<td>Channel Country Ladies Day @ Betoota</td>
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<tr>
<td>28th Oct</td>
<td>Wyandra Motobike &amp; Home Gymkhana</td>
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<tr>
<td>31st Oct</td>
<td>Trick or Treat Walk Around — starts from hall</td>
<td>@ 5:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Nov</td>
<td>Prizes for best dressed — 5th and 6th</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>31st Oct</td>
<td>For the Hospital Auxiliary</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>31st Oct</td>
<td>Note: Please let them know if you want your house on the list!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31st Oct</td>
<td>Melbourne Cup Day @ Betoota</td>
<td>Hall for RFDS @ 5:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Nov</td>
<td>School Twilight</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Dec</td>
<td>School Twilight</td>
<td>Christmas Tree &amp; School Musical</td>
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CLASS DOJO

Class Dojos is our positive behaviour awards system within the classrooms. These students have shown 95% or above positive behaviour this week. Keep up the good work everyone!

P.2 CLASSROOM NEWS

Welcome back to term 1! It will be an action packed term with lots of things happening that will keep all of us on our toes.

This term in English/Geography the Prep/Kindy students are looking at special places and how to write letters. They will send postcards, letters, emails, text messages and videos to all different places and people, hopefully all going well, they will get some mail back in return.

In Maths, our focus is on number and being able to count, recognise and write numbers to twenty and beyond. Our Art unit is the musical, so we are covering drama, singing and musical instruments. In Digital Technology, we will be preparing the props for the musical and if that is not enough for a little kids we still have reading, spelling and robotics. A very hands on fun term lies ahead.

In year 1 and 2 our English/Geography unit is an advertisements. We are analysing commercials, ads and print media. The students will in pairs compare two texts and give their opinion as to which advertisement they prefer. Then individually they will choose a favourite character and a special holiday place and make a commercial convincing their character to go on holidays with them.

Our focus in Maths is on number and being able to count forwards and backwards in 2’s, 5’s and 10’s. We also visit addition, subtraction and statistics. Like the Prep our art and Digital Technology unit is tied in with the musical. We also have reading, handwriting, spelling and robotics in this term. Another great term ahead and one I’m sure all will enjoy.

Trish

KINDY PILOT NEWS

Welcome back to the Kindy students! We have a fun and exciting term ahead of us. This term we welcome Matilda Collins to our Kindy class, already she is proving to be a bright and chatty little star. Our Kindy class total now is 4 bright and eager to learn little ladies.

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The first day back was a steady day with the students getting back into their class routine but by the second day they were more focussed and eager to learn.

Our main focus is teaching the students to read and write, so this term the girls are looking at how to write letters. We have already made our very own mail box this week for all the letters to come. The girls had fun decorating the mail box and it is now ready to hold our postcards and letters that need to be sent in the mail.

We are also focusing on recognising and counting numbers to 5 and above. The students will look at a number a day. During this lesson we will look at what is one more, one less, 10 more, 10 less, etc. How to write the word, drawing the amount of tallies to equal that number and even finding where it goes on a number line.

The Kindy students will combine with the rest of the school students during their art units on a Tuesday afternoon to practice songs and actions in preparation for the school musical at the end of the year. They had their first session with Mrs Collins on Tuesday and already it sounds AMAZING!

Kitsa

SCIENCE WITH MS. J

Through the concept of kitchen chemistry, all students will be classifying substances based on their properties such as solids, liquids or gases; exploring physical changes such as change of state and dissolving; identifying and constructing questions about the relationship between properties and use: carrying out fair test investigations and communicating the results: and finally, exploring chemical change and the new substances produced.

We will be endeavouring to pose and answer some inquiry questions such as:
- What properties does a substance have?
- How do these properties affect use?
- How can heating, cooling and mixing change properties?
- When do heating cooling and mixing create new substances?

This week, the 3 – 6 class was involved in popcorn making and observing the changes which took place and understanding the concepts of reversible and irreversible change. Other experiments will be conducted throughout the term looking at these concepts.

Anja